Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00957 241206Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-03 IO-13 ACDA-07
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01
/103 W
----------057851 241209Z /42
P R 241106Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4589
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0957

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, PGOV, PINS, LY, EG
SUBJ: LIBYA-EGYPT: QADHAFI'S MOTIVATIONS

LARGER QUESTION TO WHICH WE CAN STILL FIND NO FULLY SATIS-
FACTORY ANSWER IS WHY QADHAFI DECIDED TO MOVE AGAINST
EGYPTIAN BORDER POST ON JULY 19. EGYPTIAN FORCES HAVE
BEEN IN PLACE FOR ALMOST A YEAR DURING WHICH PERIOD QADHAFI
DISPLAYED CONSIDERABLE CAUTION, CONTINUALLY SEEKING MEDIATION.
WE WOULD SPECULATE, HOWEVER, THAT FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS
MAY HAVE INFLUENCED HIM:

A) QADHAFI'S PERCEPTIONS OF INTERNAL EGYPTIAN SITUATION
PROBABLY CONSIDERABLY DISTORTED PARTICULARLY FOLLOWING
JANUARY RIOTS IN CAIRO. IMPELLED BOTH BY REPORTS FROM
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00957 241206Z

EGYPTIAN DISSIDENTS AND HIS OWN WISHFUL THINKING,
HE MAY WELL HAVE CONCLUDED THAT EGYPTIAN FORCES WOULD
NOT SERIOUSLY ENGAGE BROTHER LIBYANS;

B) QADHAFI WELL AWARE OF GENERAL ATTITUDE OF
CONTEMPT OF NEIGHBORS AND OTHERS FOR HIS ARMED FORCES
WHICH ARE USUALLY CHARACTERIZED AS OVERARMED, UNDER-

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

MANNED AND TOTALLY INEFFECTIVE. HE MAY HAVE DECIDED IT WAS NECESSARY TO PROVE THAT THEY COULD BE OPERATIONAL (WHICH INDEED HE HAS);

C) INTERNAL PROBLEMS (I.E., REPORTS OF GROWING OPPOSITION TO REGIME) MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN A FACTOR. EXERCISING HIS ARMED FORCES, HE MAY HAVE THOUGHT, WOULD UNIFY THEM BEHIND HIM AS WELL AS RALLY GENERAL LIBYAN PUBLIC TO HIS FLAGGING LEADERSHIP.

D) QADHAFI MAY HAVE MOVED TO GIVE DIRECT WARNING TO "FRIENDS OF CHAD" THAT HE WOULD USE FORCE TO PROTECT LIBYA'S BORDERS. EGYPTIAN PRESENCE WAS NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY UNTIL QUESTION OF MOROCCO, ZAIRE, EGYPT AND SUDAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD AROSE.
CARLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TRIPOL00957
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770264-0147
Format: TEL
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770725/aaaaavdb.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 92db8264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1765040
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBYA-EGYPT: QADHAFI\'S MOTIVATIONS LARGER QUESTION TO WHICH WE CAN STILL FIND NO FULLY SATIS- FACTORY ANSWER IS WHY QADHAFI DECIDED TO MOVE AGAI
TAGS: MPOL, PGOV, PINS, PBOR, LY, EG, (QADHAFI, MU\'AMMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/92db8264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009